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The Senate of The State of Texas



Senator Carlos Uresti  
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March 30, 2012

The Honorable Julius Genachowski, Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th St., N.W.  
Washington, DC, 20554

Re: Big Bend Telephone Company Petition for Waiver, WC Docket No. 10-90, GN Docket No. 09-51, WC Docket No. 07-135, WC Docket No. 05-337, CC Docket No. 01-92, CC Docket No. 96-45, WC Docket No. 03-109, WT Docket No. 10-208

Dear Chairman Genachowski,

I am writing on behalf of Big Bend Telephone Company's waiver request for the National Broadband Plan as it relates to the rate of return for local exchange carriers in rural areas. BBTC serves residential, business, medical, educational, and governmental clients in a 17,500-square-mile area of West Texas that depend on this telecommunications service each and every day.

Without this waiver, BBTC customers could encounter service disruptions that would interfere with residents' quality of life, hinder law enforcement in its effort to make the border area more safe and secure, have a negative impact on the economy, and generally impede the flow of information and communications over a vast swath of rural Texas.

As a rural provider, BBTC serves a part of the state that does not have access to other adequate telecommunications services. It plays a major role in the daily lives of my constituents, and its continued existence is essential to the region's future economic development and well-being.

Therefore, I respectfully urge the commission to grant BBTC the waiver it seeks so that it may continue to serve the people of my district in West Texas. Thank you for your kind consideration and for your service to the nation.

Sincerely,

CARLOS I. URESTI

CIU/ml

CC: Brian Lloyd, Executive Director, Public Utility Commission of Texas